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10 December 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Secretary, IAC Ad Hoc Committee on Exchanges

FROM : Chairman, Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Instrument
Construction and Means of Automation

SUBJECT : Soviet Long Termed Exchange Proposal

REFERENCE : Secretary, IAC Ad Hoc Committee on Exchanges,
Memorandum to [REDACTED], dated 21 October 1957.

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I. INTRODUCTION AND CONCLUSIONS

In accordance with the request made in the referenced memorandum, an Ad Hoc Subcommittee meeting was held on 5 November 1957 to consider the proposal of the Soviet Ambassador for a long-term exchange of technical specialists in the field defined as "Instrument Construction and Means of Automation."

Present at this Subcommittee meeting were representatives of Army, Navy, AEC, and CIA.

In general, it was the unanimous opinion of the Subcommittee members present, that the Soviet proposal offers [REDACTED] and that the technological gain might be about equal for both the US and USSR.

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II. DEFINITION

In order to clarify the problem the Subcommittee recommended that the field of "Instrument Construction and Means of Automation" be defined to include the following categories of scientific and manufacturing activity:

- (a) Computers
- (b) Process Control Instrumentation, including electrical and electronic devices; mechanical devices, hydraulic and pneumatic devices, and the application of radio isotopes.
- (c) Optical Instrumentation
- (d) Servomechanisms
- (e) Scientific Instrumentation

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It was agreed that the intent of the proposed exchange does not cover the more conventional forms of industrial mechanisms such as transfer equipment, conveyor systems, and less complex tools and instruments.

Selection of the above recommended categories was made primarily on the basis of probable Soviet All-Union Ministerial and Committee organizational structure and on the basis of relative importance to the US intelligence community.

III. NET INTELLIGENCE GAIN

Subject to qualifications outlined below under Assumptions and Conditions it was the unanimous opinion that the net intelligence gain from a long-term exchange in this field would be definitely and strongly in favor of the US. This conclusion is based primarily on the following considerations:

(a) Useful US technical and trade literature is widely available and thoroughly exploited in the USSR, whereas there is a continuing lack of Soviet literature having good coverage of significant developments in science and industry.

(b) Information on industrial developments and application in this field can provide good indications of capabilities in important military hardware programs. For many systems and component devices there is a very close correlation between non military and military applications.

IV. TECHNOLOGICAL GAIN

In many phases of this area of activity, there is evidence of significant Soviet advances in both development and application. Therefore, it was the unanimous opinion of the Subcommittee members that, although the technological gain to the USSR may be greater in selected sectors, the technological gain to the US and to the USSR would be about equal for the majority of the categories.

V. ASSUMPTIONS AND CONDITIONS

(a) In view of past experience in technical exchanges, it is assumed that the proposed long-term exchange on Instrument Construction and

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Means of Automation would exclude classified projects, and in general would not cover direct military applications.

(b) The USSR has expressed strong desire for an expanded program of technical exchanges and is believed to be more interested in implementing this program than is the US in general. Therefore, it is assumed that information will be made freely available to US teams engaged in such exchanges, and that restriction of information will be no greater than in the US.

(c) It is recommended that any proposed long-term exchange on Instrument Construction and Means of Automation comprise both high-level scientific personnel and senior industrial engineer personnel.

(d) It is recommended further, that any proposed US team be comprised of personnel of known technical competence, 25X1X1

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(e) Exchange visits of 3 to 6 months duration would be acceptable; it was the Subcommittee's opinion that longer periods (6 months) would be preferable to shorter periods if feasible.

(f) No recommendations are made at this time relative to the itinerary or specific delegate membership.

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Chairman, Ad Hoc Subcommittee

cc: All Members of Subcommittee (9)
Executive Officer/SI
Chief, FSD/SI
Collection Staff/SI

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